United Nations A/C.1/73/L.60

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 101 (ii)
General and complete disarmament: countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices

Afghanistan, Australia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden: draft resolution

Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 70/46 of 7 December 2015, 71/72 of 5 December 2016 and 72/36 of 4 December 2017,

Expressing grave concern over the devastation caused by the increasing use of improvised explosive devices by illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients,[1] which has affected a large number of countries and has resulted in thousands of casualties, both civilian and military, and, in this regard, stressing the need for all actors to comply with applicable international law at all times,

Expressing concern over the increased use of and sophistication of the design and means of detonation of improvised explosive devices,

Expressing profound concern at the indiscriminate use and effects of improvised explosive devices and at the increasing humanitarian impact of such attacks on civilian populations worldwide, in particular through the perpetration of terrorist acts, and noting the need for a comprehensive approach in addressing this concern,

Expressing concern at the serious harm that such improvised explosive device attacks have caused to United Nations staff and peacekeepers, and to humanitarian workers, by threatening their lives, increasing the cost of their activities, limiting their freedom of movement and affecting their ability to effectively deliver on their mandates,

[1] See resolution 69/51, A/CONF.192/BMS/2014/2, A/71/187 and Security Council resolution 2370 (2017).

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Expressing concern also about the negative impact of these attacks on socioeconomic development, infrastructure and freedom of movement, and on the security and stability of States, and thus underlining the need to address this issue in order to achieve relevant goals and targets under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2] in particular target 16.1 on significantly reducing all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere,

Urging Member States to ensure that any measures taken or means employed to implement the present resolution comply with international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations, applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law,

Recognizing the importance of full involvement and equal opportunities for participation for both women and men in countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices,

Underlining the importance of addressing the threat of improvised explosive devices and their differential impacts on women, girls, boys and men,

Recognizing that the wide spectrum of materials that can be used for the manufacture of improvised explosive devices, including those sourced from the military and civilian industry, contributes to their diverse nature and their deployment methods, which thus requires an appropriate approach to the formulation of measures to counter them,

Noting that the impact of improvised explosive devices spans a wide array of policy areas and that, owing to the extent of the cross-cutting nature of the issue, a whole-of-government approach focusing on the capacity of Governments to effectively bring together several policy strands for comprehensive action is essential,

Noting also the Secretary-General's disarmament agenda, *Securing our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, and its call for United Nations entities to promote a strengthened and coherent United Nations inter-agency coordination on improvised explosive devices,

Underlining the important role that States can play in raising awareness among private sector and other entities about the possible theft, diversion and misuse of their products to make improvised explosive devices, with a view to enabling those entities to develop effective strategies to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices,[3] including to prevent the adverse impact of the diversion of materials and the potential loss of revenue and risk to reputation, either in a partnership with governmental authorities, or through business-to-business processes or activities,

Noting existing industry-led initiatives that seek to increase industry oversight and accountability along the supply chain for precursor components, and encouraging States to engage, as appropriate, with private sector industry actors in supporting such initiatives,

Noting also the contribution of good governance, the promotion of human rights, the rule of law, adherence to the principles of the Charter and sustained and inclusive socioeconomic growth, including through effective measures and mechanisms for persons belonging to vulnerable groups, as important elements in comprehensively addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices, in particular in post-conflict situations,

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[2] Resolution 70/1.

[3] See the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework (A/HRC/17/31, annex).

Stressing the paramount need to prevent illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients from, and identify the networks that support them in, obtaining, handling, financing, storing, using or seeking access to all types of explosives, whether military or civilian, as well as other military or civilian materials and components that can be used to manufacture improvised explosive devices, including detonators, detonating cords and chemical components, while at the same time avoiding any undue restrictions on the legitimate use of those materials,

Recalling, in this context, relevant resolutions on the prevention of the acquisition of weapons by terrorists, including improvised explosive device components, and their transfer to and between terrorists, associated groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals,[4]

Recalling also relevant resolutions on improvised explosive device threat mitigation, including those addressing the indiscriminate use of improvised explosive devices and the impact on peacekeeping operations, special political missions and humanitarian responses,[5]

Stressing the importance of effectively securing conventional ammunition stockpiles in order to mitigate the risk of their diversion to illicit use as materials for improvised explosive devices, and noting the voluntary, practical International Ammunition Technical Guidelines in this regard,

Stressing also the importance of engagement by all Member States in a comprehensive and coordinated community of action to counter the global threat posed by improvised explosive devices in the hands of illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, taking into account national capacities,

Noting that, at the global level, organizations across many sectors have expertise that can contribute to a useful set of measures for the mitigation of improvised explosive devices, and noting also the value of considered and coordinated efforts by various stakeholders, including intergovernmental and regional organizations and industry associations, with a view to investing effectively in coordination and information exchange,

Noting also the discussions on the issue of improvised explosive devices by the informal group of experts under the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Amended Protocol II)[6] and on the technical annex to the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V)[7] to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[8] and further noting that, for States parties thereto, anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature also fall within the scope of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[9]

Noting further the multilateral efforts to counter improvised explosive devices of the Programme Global Shield, led by the World Customs Organization and assisted by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to prevent the smuggling and illicit diversion of precursor chemicals that could be used to build improvised explosive devices, the network of regional and multilateral communities of action established by States to

[4] See Security Council resolution 2370 (2017).
[5] See Security Council resolution 2365 (2017).
[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2048, No. 22495.
[7] Ibid., vol. 2399, No. 22495.
[8] Ibid., vol. 1342, No. 22495.
[9] Ibid., vol. 2056, No. 35597.

counter improvised explosive devices, the research on those devices undertaken by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the work undertaken by the Mine Action Service of the United Nations to mitigate the threat posed by those devices to civilians, United Nations staff, peacekeepers and humanitarian personnel, in particular in the field,

Taking note of the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings[10] and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[11] and the efforts undertaken to strengthen the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the Strategy, including through the establishment of the Office of Counter-Terrorism,[12]

Reaffirming the inherent right of Member States to individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter,

1. *Takes note of* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 72/36,[13] including the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Recognizes* that existing approaches in multilateral arms regulation, while valuable, do not fully address the use of improvised explosive devices in conflict and immediate post-conflict environments, and therefore strongly urges States to develop and implement, where appropriate, all national measures, including outreach and partnerships with relevant actors, including the private sector, necessary to promote awareness, vigilance and good practices among their nationals, persons subject to their jurisdiction and firms incorporated in their territory or subject to their jurisdiction that are involved in the production, sale, supply, purchase, transfer and/or storage of precursor components and materials that could be used to make improvised explosive devices;

3. *Strongly encourages* States, where appropriate, to develop and adopt their own national policy to counter improvised explosive devices that includes civilian-military cooperation, to strengthen their countermeasure capability, to prevent their territory from being used for terrorist purposes and to combat illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients in their use of improvised explosive devices, while bearing in mind their obligations under applicable international law, and notes that the policy could include measures to support international and regional efforts to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate attacks using improvised explosive devices and their widespread consequences;

4. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, as well as the United Nations system and other relevant organizations and institutions supporting affected States, to increase attention to prevention and to provide support to reduce the risks posed by improvised explosive devices in a manner which takes into consideration the different needs of women, girls, boys and men;

5. *Stresses* the need for States to take appropriate measures to strengthen the management of their national ammunition stockpiles to prevent the diversion of materials for making improvised explosive devices to illicit markets, illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, and encourages the application of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines for the safer and more secure management of ammunition stockpiles, while also recognizing the importance of

[10] Ibid., vol. 2149, No. 37517.
[11] Resolution 60/288.
[12] See resolution 71/291.
[13] A/73/156.

capacity-building, through both technical and financial assistance, in this regard, as well as the contributions made by various United Nations entities to that end;[14]

6. *Underlines* that, for the issue of improvised explosive devices to be effectively addressed, it is essential to comprehend the importance of action needed at the local and community levels, engaging with community leaders and relevant civil society organizations through activities ranging from awareness-raising of the threat posed by such devices and of possible threat mitigation measures, in conjunction with distributors and local retailers, and intelligence-gathering, to establishing deradicalization programmes, and the need for Governments to engage continuously with local authorities and groups, and encourages States in a position to do so to support initiatives and efforts to that end;

7. *Encourages* States to enhance, as appropriate, international and regional cooperation, including the sharing of information on good practices as appropriate and where relevant, in cooperation with the private sector, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Customs Organization, in order to address the theft, diversion, loss and illicit use of materials for making improvised explosive devices, while ensuring the security of sensitive information that is shared;

8. *Encourages* States and the private sector to increase prevention efforts by taking measures to stem the transfer of knowledge of improvised explosive devices and their construction and use by illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, as well as measures to stem the illicit acquisition of components over the Internet;

9. *Encourages* States to increase prevention efforts by taking measures, including awareness-raising, support for research and data collection, to combat illicit procurement of components, explosives and materials for the construction of improvised explosive devices, including through the use of the "dark web";[15]

10. *Encourages* States to participate, in accordance with their obligations and commitments, in the ongoing work on improvised explosive devices by the informal group of experts under the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices as amended on 3 May 1996 (Amended Protocol II)[15] to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[15] while recognizing the role of the United Nations and other international organizations in providing technical support and insight for these discussions;

11. *Also encourages* States to participate, as appropriate, in a comprehensive and coordinated community of action to counter improvised explosive devices in accordance with their respective international obligations and commitments, and to consider supporting the Programme Global Shield of the World Customs Organization and other multilateral and regional efforts;

12. *Encourages States*, the United Nations and international, regional and other organizations with relevant expertise that are in a position to do so to render to interested States, upon their request, technical, financial and material assistance aimed at strengthening the capacity of such States to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices, including through assistance for the development of good practices

[14] The General Assembly, in its resolution 66/42, welcomed the completion of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines and the establishment of the "SaferGuard" knowledge resource management programme for the stockpile management of conventional ammunition.

[15] Content of the dark web exists on overlay networks which use the Internet but require specific software, configurations or authorizations that are not indexed by search engines.

for the protection of civilians from attacks using such devices and for the development of standards to ensure the safety of personnel involved in the disposal of improvised explosive devices, and to provide appropriate assistance to the victims of such attacks;

13. *Encourages* States to respond to the needs of today's peacekeepers to operate in new threat environments involving improvised explosive devices, including by providing, in consultation and cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, the appropriate training, capabilities, information and knowledge management and technology required to counter improvised explosive devices, and to ensure that adequate financial resources are allocated to meet such needs, takes note of the Guidelines on Improvised Explosive Device Threat Mitigation in Mission Settings developed by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support of the Secretariat,[16] and encourages the full implementation of the Guidelines in all peacekeeping operations;

14. *Recognizes* that improvised explosive devices are being increasingly used in terrorist activities, takes note of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Office of Counter-Terrorism related to the prevention of the acquisition of weapons by terrorists, and encourages all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to address the issue of improvised explosive devices, as appropriate and in line with their respective mandates, and to coordinate their activities to that end;

15. *Urges* Member States to comply fully with all relevant United Nations resolutions, including those related to preventing terrorist groups from using and accessing materials that can be used in the making of improvised explosive devices;[17]

16. *Encourages* States and relevant international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, including international industry associations, to continue to build upon existing awareness, prevention and risk education campaigns regarding the urgent threat of improvised explosive devices and to disseminate threat mitigation measures;

17. *Encourages* States and relevant international and regional organizations to engage, as appropriate, with private sector entities in discussions and initiatives on countering improvised explosive devices, including on issues such as accountability throughout the supply chain for dual-use components, traceability procedures, improving the regulation of explosive precursors, where possible and as appropriate, strengthening security for the transport and storage of explosives and of precursors, as well as enhancing the vetting procedures for personnel with access to explosives or to precursors useful to the manufacture of explosives, while avoiding undue restrictions on the legitimate use of and access to such materials;

18. *Notes* the relevant research undertaken by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, encourages it to continue research in the area of prevention strategies, and encourages States in a position to do so to continue to support its work in this area;

19. *Strongly encourages* States to share information, on a voluntary basis, on the diversion of commercial-grade explosives and commercially available detonators to the illicit trade and transfers to illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, through relevant channels, including the INTERPOL Project Watchmaker, Chemical Anti-Smuggling Enforcement and Chemical Risk

[16] Available at www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/ieds.

[17] Including Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 2160 (2014), 2161 (2014), 2199 (2015), 2253 (2015), 2255 (2015) and 2370 (2017).

Identification and Mitigation programmes and the Programme Global Shield of the World Customs Organization;

20. *Encourages* States to share information related to countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices;

21. *Takes into account* the existing initiatives at the international, regional and national levels to counter improvised explosive devices, and encourages the engagement by States in an open and inclusive dialogue on steps forward to harmonize diverse ongoing efforts, including those on raising awareness and preventive strategies;

22. *Urges* States in a position to do so to contribute funding to the diverse areas of work needed to effectively address the issue of improvised explosive devices, including research, clearance, ammunition stockpile management, preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, awareness-raising, capacity-building, information management and victim assistance, through existing trust funds and arrangements, including those of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the Office for Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations voluntary trust fund for assistance in mine action, efforts undertaken under relevant conventions[18] or through regional or national programmes;

23. *Welcomes* the establishment by the Office for Disarmament Affairs, in coordination with other relevant entities, of an online information hub that provides impartial, authoritative information relevant to addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices in a comprehensive manner, and encourages States to utilize the hub to access existing initiatives, policies, documents and tools relevant to countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices;

24. *Takes note* of the completion of the United Nations Improvised Explosive Device Disposal Standards, coordinated by the Mine Action Service of the United Nations in cooperation with national technical experts, applicable where the context or mandate is not humanitarian;

25. *Also takes note* of the ongoing update of the International Mine Action Standards with regard to improvised explosive devices, which serve as the guiding framework for humanitarian mine action operations, and urges the International Mine Action Standards Review Board to rapidly finalize the update;

26. *Notes* that the United Nations Policy on Survivor Assistance in Mine Action highlights the significance of integrating survivor assistance efforts into broader international and national frameworks, as well as the importance of sustained services and support to survivors, including the survivors of attacks involving improvised explosive devices;

27. *Also notes* the completion of the United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit Manual and the Improvised Explosive Device Threat Mitigation Military and Police Handbook by the Office of Military Affairs of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Mine Action Service, respectively, to support the capacity of United Nations peacekeepers to effectively address the risks posed by such devices;

28. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to support the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in consultation with relevant bodies of the United Nations system, in developing a voluntary self-assessment tool to assist States in

[18] Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

identifying gaps and challenges in their national regulation and preparedness regarding improvised explosive devices;

29. *Recognizes* the important contribution of civil society to addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices, including in clearance, awareness-raising, risk education, victim assistance and preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in particular at the local and community levels;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution, focusing on awareness and prevention strategies, acknowledging and taking into account existing efforts, both inside and outside the United Nations, and seeking the views of Member States;

31. *Encourages* States to continue to hold open, informal consultations, where appropriate, focusing on raising awareness, prevention and coordination within the United Nations system and beyond, with information provided by States, international and regional organizations as well as experts from non-governmental organizations, including relevant private sector stakeholders, on efforts to prevent, counter and mitigate the threat posed by improvised explosive devices, which could assist the Assembly in maintaining a comprehensive overview of relevant global activities;

32. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices".

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.61

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
18 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 103
Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

France: draft decision

Thirty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 70/69 of 7 December 2015, decides:

(a) To take note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Thirty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research",[1] including the findings of the independent third-party assessment with a mandate to prepare a report on the future structural, financial, administrative and operational aspects of the Institute, outlining a sustainable and stable funding structure and operating model as required to achieve the mandate and objectives of the Institute beyond the biennium 2018–2019;

(b) To reiterate its conviction that the Institute should continue to conduct independent research on problems relating to disarmament and security and to undertake specialized research requiring a high degree of expertise, bearing in mind the importance of the Institute as a stand-alone, autonomous institution that contributes, through its research, analysis and activities, to progress in disarmament and, ultimately, to a safer world;

(c) To underline the particularly relevant contribution of the Institute to thinking and analysis on international security issues in the current context, and to express its continued support for the Institute, as well as for efforts aiming at establishing a sustainable and stable funding structure and operating model for the Institute;

(d) To include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", a sub-item entitled "United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research".

[1] A/73/284.

18-17435 (E) 241018

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United Nations A/C.1/73/L.62

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 101 (kk)
General and complete disarmament: ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world

Algeria, Austria, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, Ireland, Lesotho, Mexico, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Samoa, South Africa, Thailand, Uganda, Uruguay and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 70/50 of 7 December 2015, adopted on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, which was established to save succeeding generations from the untold suffering of the scourge of war, and its resolution 72/37 of 4 December 2017,

Recalling also that the United Nations emerged at the time of the immense trail of death and destruction resulting from the Second World War, 73 years ago,

Recalling further the noble principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which enjoin the international community, individually and collectively, to spare no effort in promoting the ethical imperative of "in larger freedom", so that all peoples may enjoy freedom from want, freedom from fear and the freedom to live in dignity,

Convinced that, given the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with a nuclear weapon detonation, Member States have long envisaged nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation as urgent and interlinked ethical imperatives in achieving the objectives of the Charter, which is reflected in the first resolution, resolution 1 (I), adopted by the General Assembly on 24 January 1946, aimed at the elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons and of all other major weapons adaptable to mass destruction,

Acknowledging, in this connection, the ethical imperatives outlined in the provisions of its resolutions and reports and those of other related international initiatives on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks posed by a nuclear weapon detonation, including the declaration that the use of nuclear weapons would cause indiscriminate suffering and as such is a violation of the Charter and the

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laws of humanity and international law,[1] the condemnation of nuclear war as contrary to human conscience and a violation of the fundamental right to life,[2] the threat to the very survival of humankind posed by the existence of nuclear weapons,[3] the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,[4] and the disquiet that was expressed at the continued spending on the development and maintenance of nuclear arsenals,[5]

Acknowledging also the preamble to and article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[6] and the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons,[7] in which the Court unanimously concluded that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Acknowledging further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving that aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Concerned that, despite the long-standing recognition that it has accorded to these ethical imperatives and while much effort has been directed to addressing nuclear non-proliferation, limited progress has been made in meeting the nuclear disarmament obligations required to achieve and maintain the nuclear-weapon-free world that the international community demands,

Disappointed at the continued absence of progress towards multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament in the Conference on Disarmament, despite unrelenting efforts of Member States towards this end,

Noting with satisfaction the increasing awareness, renewed attention and growing momentum that has been generated by Member States and the international community since 2010 regarding the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with nuclear weapons, which underpin the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, together with all related international initiatives,

Recalling the adoption on 7 July 2017 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons,[9] in which the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament are acknowledged,

Conscious of the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in relation to nuclear disarmament, and determined to promote multilateralism as essential to nuclear disarmament negotiations,

1. *Calls upon* all States to acknowledge the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks posed by a nuclear weapon detonation, whether by accident, miscalculation or design;

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[1] See resolution 1653 (XVI).
[2] See resolution 38/75.
[3] See resolution S-10/2.
[4] See resolution 50/70 M.
[5] See A/59/119.
[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.
[7] A/51/218, annex.
[8] Resolution 55/2.
[9] A/CONF.229/2017/8.

2. *Acknowledges* the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, which is a "global public good of the highest order", serving both national and collective security interests;

3. *Declares* that:

(a) The global threat posed by nuclear weapons must urgently be eliminated;

(b) Discussions, decisions and actions on nuclear weapons must focus on the effects of these weapons on human beings and the environment and must be guided by the unspeakable suffering and unacceptable harm that they cause;

(c) Greater attention must be given to the impact of a nuclear weapon detonation on women and the importance of their participation in discussions, decisions and actions on nuclear weapons;

(d) Nuclear weapons serve to undermine collective security, heighten the risk of nuclear catastrophe, aggravate international tension and make conflict more dangerous;

(e) Arguments in favour of the retention of nuclear weapons have a negative impact on the credibility of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime;

(f) The long-term plans for the modernization of nuclear weapons arsenals run contrary to commitments and obligations to nuclear disarmament and engender perceptions of the indefinite possession of these weapons;

(g) In a world where basic human needs have not yet been met, the vast resources allocated to the modernization of nuclear weapons arsenals could instead be redirected to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals;[10]

(h) Given the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, it is inconceivable that any use of nuclear weapons, irrespective of the cause, would be compatible with the requirements of international humanitarian law or international law, or the laws of morality, or the dictates of public conscience;

(i) Given their indiscriminate nature and potential to annihilate humanity, nuclear weapons are inherently immoral;

4. *Notes* that all responsible States have a solemn duty to take decisions that serve to protect their people and each other from the ravages of a nuclear weapon detonation, and that the only way for States to do so is through the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

5. *Stresses* that all States share an ethical responsibility to act with urgency and determination, with the support of all relevant stakeholders, to take the effective measures, including legally binding measures, necessary to eliminate and prohibit all nuclear weapons, given their catastrophic humanitarian consequences and associated risks;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world".

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[10] See resolution 70/1.

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.63

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 101 (q)
General and complete disarmament: the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Namibia, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay: draft resolution

The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 72/57 of 4 December 2017, as well as all previous resolutions on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including resolution 56/24 V of 24 December 2001,

Emphasizing the importance of the continued and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[1] and recognizing its important contribution to international efforts on this matter,

Emphasizing also the importance of the continued and full implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument),[2]

Recalling the commitment of States to the Programme of Action as the main framework for measures within the activities of the international community to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[2] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and A/60/88/Corr.2, annex.

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Underlining the need for States to enhance their efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

Mindful of the implementation of the outcomes adopted by the follow-up meetings on the Programme of Action,

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (the third Review Conference), held in New York from 18 to 29 June 2018,

Recognizing the need for strengthened participation of women in decision-making and implementation processes relating to the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, and reaffirming the need for States to mainstream gender dimensions in their implementation efforts,

Noting that web-based tools developed by the Secretariat, including its searchable database and the Modular Small-arms-control Implementation Compendium, and the tools developed by Member States could be used to assess progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the acknowledgement, by the third Review Conference in its outcome document,[3] of the proposal on the establishment of a dedicated fellowship training programme on small arms and light weapons in order to strengthen technical knowledge and expertise in areas relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, in particular in developing countries,

Reaffirming also the importance of the early designation of the Presidents of future review conferences and the Chairs of future biennial meetings of States,

Noting that voluntary national reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action can serve, inter alia, to provide a baseline for measuring progress in its implementation, build confidence and promote transparency, provide a basis for information exchange and action and serve to identify needs and opportunities for international assistance and cooperation, including the matching of needs with available resources and expertise,

Noting with satisfaction regional and subregional efforts being undertaken in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action, and commending the progress that has already been made in this regard, including the tackling of both supply and demand factors that are relevant to addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

Reaffirming that international cooperation and assistance are an essential aspect of the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

Recognizing the efforts undertaken by non-governmental organizations in the provision of assistance to States for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling that Governments bear the primary responsibility for preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, in accordance with the sovereignty of States and their relevant international obligations,

Reiterating that illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons is a serious problem that the international community should address urgently,

[3] A/CONF.192/2018/RC/3, annex.

Highlighting new challenges and potential opportunities with regard to effective marking, record-keeping and tracing resulting from developments in the manufacturing, technology and design of small arms and light weapons, and bearing in mind the different situations, capacities and priorities of States and regions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[4] which includes an overview of the implementation of resolution 72/57,

Welcoming the inclusion of small arms and light weapons in the scope of the Arms Trade Treaty,[5]

Acknowledging efforts related to the transfer of conventional arms that may also contribute to the prevention and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

1. *Underlines* the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects requires concerted efforts at the national, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons, and that their uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world has a wide range of humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences and poses a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels;

2. *Recognizes* the urgent need to maintain and enhance national controls, in accordance with the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[1] to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including their diversion to illicit trade, illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, taking into account, inter alia, their adverse humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences for the affected States;

3. *Calls upon* all States to implement the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument)[2] by, inter alia, including in their national reports the name and contact information of the national points of contact and information on national marking practices used to indicate country of manufacture and/or country of import, as applicable;

4. *Encourages* all relevant initiatives, including those of the United Nations, other international organizations, regional and subregional organizations, non-governmental organizations and civil society, for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action, and calls upon all Member States to contribute towards the continued implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

5. *Encourages* States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/81 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;[6]

6. *Endorses* the outcome of the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 19 to 29 June 2018 (the third Review Conference);[3]

[4] A/73/168.

[5] See resolution 67/234 B.

[6] See A/62/163 and A/62/163/Corr.1.

7. *Decides*, pursuant to the schedule of meetings for the period from 2018 to 2024 agreed upon at the third Review Conference, to convene a one-week biennial meeting of States in 2020 to consider key challenges and opportunities relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument at the national, regional and global levels for the purposes of preventing and combating the diversion and the illicit international transfer of small arms and light weapons to unauthorized recipients, as well as a one-week biennial meeting of States in 2022;

8. *Also decides* to convene the fourth United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in 2024, to be preceded by a preparatory committee meeting in early 2024 of not more than five days;

9. *Underlines* the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument for attaining Goal 16 and target 16.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals;[7]

10. *Emphasizes* that international cooperation and assistance remain essential to the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, while being mindful of the need to ensure the adequacy, effectiveness and sustainability of international cooperation and assistance;

11. *Also emphasizes* the fact that initiatives by the international community with respect to international cooperation and assistance remain essential and complementary to national implementation efforts, as well as to those at the regional and global levels;

12. *Recognizes* the necessity for interested States to develop effective coordination mechanisms, where they do not exist, in order to match the needs of States with existing resources to enhance the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make international cooperation and assistance more effective, and in this regard encourages States to make use, as appropriate, of the Programme of Action Implementation Support System;

13. *Encourages* States to consider, among other mechanisms, the coherent identification of needs, priorities, national plans and programmes that may require international cooperation and assistance from States and regional and international organizations in a position to do so;

14. *Also encourages* States, on a voluntary basis, to make increasing use of their national reports as another tool for communicating assistance needs and information on the resources and mechanisms available to address such needs, and encourages States in a position to render such assistance to make use of those national reports;

15. *Encourages* States, relevant international and regional organizations and civil society with the capacity to do so to cooperate with and provide assistance to other States, upon request, in the preparation of comprehensive reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action;

16. *Encourages* States to reinforce, as necessary, cross-border cooperation at the national, subregional and regional levels in addressing the common problem of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, with full respect for each State's sovereignty over its own borders;

[7] See resolution 70/1.

17. *Also encourages* States to take full advantage of the benefits of cooperation with the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament, the World Customs Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in accordance with their mandates and consistent with national priorities;

18. *Encourages* all efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action, including those highlighted in the outcome document of the third Review Conference;

19. *Encourages* States to submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action, notes that States will submit national reports on their implementation of the International Tracing Instrument, encourages those States in a position to do so to use the reporting template made available by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, and reaffirms the utility of synchronizing such reports with biennial meetings of States and review conferences as a means of increasing the submission rate and improving the utility of reports, as well as contributing substantively to meeting discussions;

20. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to provide financial assistance, through a voluntary sponsorship fund, that could be distributed, upon request, to States otherwise unable to participate in meetings on the Programme of Action;

21. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to establish a multi-partner trust facility within the Peacebuilding Fund, dedicated to providing sustainable, cross-sectional, multi-year programming focused on eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in settings of conflict and pervasive crime, and encourages States in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the facility;

22. *Encourages* interested States and relevant international and regional organizations in a position to do so to convene regional meetings to consider and advance the implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as the International Tracing Instrument, including in preparation for the meetings on the Programme of Action;

23. *Encourages* civil society and relevant organizations to strengthen their cooperation and work with States at the respective national and regional levels to achieve the implementation of the Programme of Action;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to take into account in that report, among other issues, the views of Member States with regard to the recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design, in particular polymer and modular weapons, including on their associated opportunities and challenges, as well as their impact on the effective implementation of the International Tracing Instrument, and to make recommendations on ways of addressing them;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects".

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.64

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 101 (r)
General and complete disarmament: towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments

Austria, Brazil, Egypt, Ghana, Ireland, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Samoa and South Africa: draft resolution

Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1 (I) of 24 January 1946, 71/54 of 5 December 2016 and 72/39 of 4 December 2017,

Noting the twentieth anniversary of the launch of the New Agenda Coalition and the joint declaration outlining a new agenda for disarmament, adopted in Dublin on 9 June 1998,[1]

Recalling its resolution 72/243 of 22 December 2017, in which it decided to hold a high-level plenary meeting in 2018, the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit, in honour of the centenary of the birth of Nelson Mandela, welcoming the political declaration adopted by the Summit on 24 September 2018,[2] in which it recalled the firm plea made by Nelson Mandela in favour of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, and underscoring commitments towards that goal,

Welcoming the launch of the Secretary-General's disarmament agenda, entitled *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, in Geneva on 24 May 2018,

Reiterating its grave concern at the danger to humanity posed by nuclear weapons, which should inform all deliberations, decisions and actions relating to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

Recalling the expression of deep concern by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and its resolve to seek a

[1] A/53/138, annex.
[2] Resolution 73/1.

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safer world for all and to achieve the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons,[3]

Noting with satisfaction the renewed attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with nuclear weapons that has been generated by the international community since 2010 and the growing awareness that these concerns should underpin the need for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, and noting with satisfaction also the prominence accorded to the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons in multilateral disarmament forums,

Recalling the discussions held at the Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, hosted by Norway, on 4 and 5 March 2013, Mexico, on 13 and 14 February 2014, and Austria, on 8 and 9 December 2014, aimed at understanding and developing a greater awareness of the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapon detonations which further reinforce the urgency of nuclear disarmament,

Emphasizing the compelling evidence, including that presented at the Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, that has detailed the catastrophic consequences that would result from a nuclear weapon detonation, reaching well beyond national borders and also imperilling the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,[4] the lack of capacity of States and international organizations to deal with the aftermath and the risk of an occurrence, due to an accident, systems failure or human error,

Noting the strongly disproportionate and gendered impact of exposure to ionizing radiation for women and girls,

Welcoming the commemoration and promotion of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons,

Welcoming also the adoption on 7 July 2017 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, negotiated by the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination, pursuant to resolution 71/258 of 23 December 2016,[5]

Underlining the importance of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education,

Reaffirming that transparency, verifiability and irreversibility are cardinal principles applying to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, which are mutually reinforcing processes,

Recalling the decisions and the resolution adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[6] the basis upon which the Treaty was indefinitely extended, and the Final

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[3] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

[4] See resolution 70/1.

[5] A/CONF.229/2017/8.

[6] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex.

Documents of the 2000[7] and the 2010[8] Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and in particular the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, in accordance with commitments made under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[9]

Reaffirming the commitment of all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to applying the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the implementation of their treaty obligations,

Recognizing the continued vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty [10] to the advancement of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives,

Recalling that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in receiving unequivocal and legally binding negative security assurances from nuclear-weapon States pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the conviction that, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the establishment and maintenance of nuclear-weapon-free zones enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament, and welcoming the Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia,

Urging States to continue to make real progress towards strengthening all existing nuclear-weapon-free zones, inter alia, through the ratification of existing treaties and relevant protocols and the withdrawal or revision of any reservations or interpretative declarations contrary to the object and purpose of the treaties establishing such zones,

Recalling the encouragement expressed at the 2010 Review Conference for the establishment of further nuclear-weapon-free zones, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, reaffirming the expectation that this will be followed by concerted international efforts to create such zones in areas where they do not currently exist, especially in the Middle East, in this context noting with deep disappointment the non-fulfilment of the agreement at the 2010 Review Conference on practical steps to fully implement the 1995 resolution on the Middle East,[6] and disappointed that no agreement could be reached at the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on this issue,

Deeply disappointed at the continued absence of progress towards multilateral nuclear disarmament at the Conference on Disarmament, which has been unable for the past 22 years to agree upon and implement a programme of work, and

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[7] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II), NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III) and NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part IV)).

[8] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[10] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

disappointed that the Disarmament Commission has not produced a substantive outcome on nuclear disarmament since 1999,

Deeply regretting the lack of any substantive outcome of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Disappointed that the 2015 Review Conference missed an opportunity to strengthen the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, enhance progress towards its full implementation and universality and monitor the implementation of commitments made and actions agreed upon at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences, and deeply concerned about the impact of this failure on the Treaty and the balance between its three pillars,

Noting with concern the rising tensions in international relations and the increased prominence being given by some States to nuclear weapons in their security doctrines, including through modernization programmes,

Noting the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held in Geneva from 23 April to 4 May 2018,

Emphasizing the importance of a constructive and successful preparatory process leading to the 2020 Review Conference, and urging all Member States to step up their efforts in this regard, and emphasising also that it should contribute to strengthening the Treaty and making progress towards achieving its full implementation and universality, and monitor the implementation of commitments made and actions agreed at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences,

Welcoming that the Russian Federation and the United States of America have completed the nuclear weapon reductions agreed under the new strategic arms reduction treaty, while re-emphasizing the encouragement of the 2010 Review Conference to both States to continue discussions on follow-on measures in order to achieve deeper reductions in their nuclear arsenals,

Underlining the importance of multilateralism in relation to nuclear disarmament, while recognizing the value of unilateral, bilateral and regional initiatives and the importance of compliance with the terms of these initiatives,

1. *Reiterates* that each article of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[9] is binding on the States parties at all times and in all circumstances and that all States parties should be held fully accountable with respect to strict compliance with their obligations under the Treaty, and calls upon all States parties to comply fully with all decisions, resolutions and commitments made at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences;

2. *Also reiterates* the deep concern expressed by the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law;[3]

3. *Acknowledges* the evidence presented at the Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, and calls upon Member States, in their relevant decisions and actions, to give due prominence to the humanitarian imperatives that underpin nuclear disarmament and to the urgency of achieving this goal;

4. *Recalls* the reaffirmation of the continued validity of the practical steps agreed to in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, [11] including the specific reaffirmation of the unequivocal undertaking of the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty, recalls the commitment of the nuclear-weapon States to accelerating concrete progress on the steps leading to nuclear disarmament, and calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to take all steps necessary to accelerate the fulfilment of their commitments;

5. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to fulfil their commitment to undertaking further efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate all types of nuclear weapons, deployed and non-deployed, including through unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures;

6. *Urges* all States possessing nuclear weapons to decrease the operational readiness of nuclear-weapon systems in a verifiable and transparent manner with a view to ensuring that all nuclear weapons are removed from high alert status;

7. *Encourages* the nuclear-weapon States to make concrete reductions in the role and significance of nuclear weapons in all military and security concepts, doctrines and policies, pending their total elimination;

8. *Encourages* all States that are part of regional alliances that include nuclear-weapon States to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in their collective security doctrines, pending their total elimination;

9. *Underlines* the recognition by States parties to the Treaty on the Non Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of the legitimate interest of non-nuclear-weapon States in the constraining by the nuclear-weapon States of the development and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and their ending the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons, and calls upon the nuclear-weapon States to take steps in this regard;

10. *Notes with concern* recent policy statements by nuclear-weapon States relating to the modernization of their nuclear weapon programmes, which undermine their commitments to nuclear disarmament and increase the risk of the use of nuclear weapons and the potential for a new arms race;

11. *Encourages* further steps by all nuclear-weapon States, in accordance with the previous obligations and commitments on nuclear disarmament, to ensure the irreversible removal of all fissile material designated by each nuclear-weapon State as no longer required for military purposes, and calls upon all States to support, within the context of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the development of appropriate nuclear disarmament verification capabilities and legally binding verification arrangements, thereby ensuring that such material remains permanently outside military programmes in a verifiable manner;

12. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to work towards the full implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[6] which is inextricably linked to the indefinite extension of the Treaty, and expresses disappointment and deep concern at the lack of a substantive outcome of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, including on the process to establish a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons

[11] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

of mass destruction as contained in the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, which remains valid until fully implemented;

13. *Urges* the co-sponsors of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East to exert their utmost efforts with a view to ensuring the early establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction as contained in the 1995 resolution on the Middle East, including through support for the convening of the conference on the establishment of such a zone;

14. *Stresses* the fundamental role of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in achieving nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and looks forward to the third session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in New York from 29 April to 10 May 2019;

15. *Calls upon* all States parties to spare no effort to achieve the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and in this regard urges India, Israel and Pakistan to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States promptly and without conditions, and to place all their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

16. *Notes with encouragement* the dialogue and discussions held with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the recent inter-Korean summits, and the summit between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to fulfil its commitments, to abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes, to return, at an early date, to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and to adhere to its International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards agreement,[12] with a view to achieving the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner, and reaffirms its firm support for the Six-Party Talks;

17. *Urges* all States to work together to overcome obstacles within the international disarmament machinery that are inhibiting efforts to advance the cause of nuclear disarmament in a multilateral context, and once again urges the Conference on Disarmament to commence immediately substantive work that advances the agenda of nuclear disarmament, particularly through multilateral negotiations;

18. *Urges* all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to fully implement without delay their obligations and commitments under the Treaty and as agreed to at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences;

19. *Also urges* all State parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to move forward with urgency in implementing their article VI obligations in order to ensure the good standing of the Treaty and its review process;

20. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to implement their nuclear disarmament obligations and commitments, both qualitative and quantitative, in a manner that enables the States parties to regularly monitor progress, including through a standard detailed reporting format, thereby enhancing confidence and trust not only among the nuclear-weapon States but also between the nuclear-weapon States and the non-nuclear-weapon States and contributing to nuclear disarmament;

21. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States to include in their reports to be submitted during the 2020 review cycle of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons concrete and detailed information concerning the implementation of their obligations and commitments on nuclear disarmament;

[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1677, No. 28986.

22. *Encourages* States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to improve the measurability of the implementation of nuclear disarmament obligations and commitments, including through tools such as a set of benchmarks or similar criteria, in order to ensure and facilitate the objective evaluation of progress;[13]

23. *Urges* Member States to pursue multilateral negotiations without delay in good faith on effective measures for the achievement and maintenance of a nuclear-weapon-free world, in keeping with the spirit and purpose of General Assembly resolution 1 (I) and article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to support efforts to identify, elaborate, negotiate and implement further effective legally binding measures for nuclear disarmament, and welcomes in this regard the adoption on 7 July 2017 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons;[5]

25. *Recommends* that measures be taken to increase awareness among civil society of the risks and catastrophic impact of any nuclear detonation, including through disarmament education;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments" and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

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[13] See NPT/CONF.2020/PC.I/WP.13.

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.65

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 100
Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

Austria, Bhutan, Croatia, Germany, India, Italy, Netherlands, Spain and Sweden: draft resolution

Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

Underlining the keen interest of the international community to keep abreast of the latest developments in science and technology of relevance to international security and disarmament and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

Mindful of the need to regulate the transfer of technologies for peaceful uses, in accordance with relevant international obligations, to address the risk of proliferation by States or non-State actors,

Acknowledging the need to continue the exchange of technologies for peaceful uses, including in accordance with relevant international obligations,

Recalling the right of States to develop, produce, otherwise acquire, retain, transfer and use technologies for peaceful purposes, in accordance with relevant international obligations,

Cognizant of the discussions on developments in science and technology at the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and within the meetings of experts on science and technology under the 2018–2020 intersessional programme established by the 2017 Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,

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Cognizant also of the discussions in the Conference on Disarmament in 2018 under its subsidiary body 5,

Mindful of the discussions in other forums, such as the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in the United Nations disarmament machinery,

Noting the discussions on various dimensions of emerging technologies under the framework of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[1] and welcoming the adoption of the report of the 2018 session of the Group of Governmental Experts on lethal autonomous weapons systems, including the section on emerging commonalities, conclusions and recommendations,

Noting also the discussions within the United Nations and the specialized agencies on developments in the field of information and communications technologies, including in the context of international security,

Acknowledging that the accelerating pace of technological change necessitates a system-wide assessment of the potential impact of developments in science and technology on international security and disarmament, with due regard to avoiding duplication and complementing efforts already under way in United Nations entities and in the framework of the relevant international conventions,

Taking note of the reference in the agenda for disarmament of the Secretary-General to his report on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts,[2]

Noting the discussions on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts in the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters during its sixty-ninth and seventieth sessions, in 2018,

1. *Invites* Member States to continue efforts to apply developments in science and technology for disarmament-related purposes, including the verification of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation instruments, and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to remain vigilant in understanding new and emerging developments in science and technology that could imperil international security, and underlines the importance of Member States engaging with experts from industry, the research community and civil society in addressing this challenge;

3. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts,[2] in which he highlights recent developments in science and technology, including in artificial intelligence and autonomous systems, biology and chemistry, advanced missile and missile-defence technologies, space-based technologies, electromagnetic technologies and materials technologies, and takes note of the section containing submissions from Member States giving their views on the matter;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session an updated report on recent developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.
[2] A/73/177.

efforts, with an annex containing submissions from Member States giving their views on the matter;

5. *Encourages* the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters to continue its discussions on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, within existing budgetary resources and from voluntary contributions, a one-day focused conference in Geneva in 2019, to be organized by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, on the role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament, in order to facilitate dialogue among relevant stakeholders on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament".

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.65/Rev.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
29 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 100
Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

Austria, Bhutan, Central African Republic, Croatia, Germany, India, Italy, Netherlands, Spain and Sweden: revised draft resolution

Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

Underlining the keen interest of the international community to keep abreast of the latest developments in science and technology of relevance to international security and disarmament and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

Mindful of the need to regulate the transfer of technologies for peaceful uses, in accordance with relevant international obligations, to address the risk of proliferation by States or non-State actors,

Acknowledging the need to continue the exchange of technologies for peaceful uses, including in accordance with relevant international obligations,

Mindful of the rights of States, reflected in relevant international agreements, regarding the development, production, transfer and use of technologies for peaceful purposes, in accordance with relevant international obligations, as well as the need for all Member States to fulfil their obligations in relation to arms control and disarmament and to prevent proliferation in all its aspects of all weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

Cognizant of the discussions on developments in science and technology at the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and within the meetings of experts on science and technology under the 2018–2020 intersessional programme established by the 2017 Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development,

Please recycle

Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,

Cognizant also of the discussions in the Conference on Disarmament in 2018 under its subsidiary body 5,

Mindful of the discussions in other forums, such as the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in the United Nations disarmament machinery,

Noting the discussions on various dimensions of emerging technologies under the framework of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[1] and welcoming the adoption of the report of the 2018 session of the Group of Governmental Experts on lethal autonomous weapons systems, including the section on emerging commonalities, conclusions and recommendations,

Noting also the discussions within the United Nations and the specialized agencies on developments in the field of information and communications technologies, including in the context of international security,

Acknowledging that the accelerating pace of technological change necessitates a system-wide assessment of the potential impact of developments in science and technology on international security and disarmament, with due regard to avoiding duplication and complementing efforts already under way in United Nations entities and in the framework of the relevant international conventions,

Taking note of the reference in the agenda for disarmament of the Secretary-General to his report on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts,[2]

Noting the discussions on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts in the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters during its sixty-ninth and seventieth sessions, in 2018,

1. *Invites* Member States to continue efforts to apply developments in science and technology for disarmament-related purposes, including the verification of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation instruments, and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to remain vigilant in understanding new and emerging developments in science and technology that could imperil international security, and underlines the importance of Member States engaging with experts from industry, the research community and civil society in addressing this challenge;

3. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts,[2] in which he highlights recent developments in science and technology, including in artificial intelligence and autonomous systems, biology and chemistry, advanced missile and missile-defence technologies, space-based technologies, electromagnetic technologies and materials technologies, and takes note of the section containing submissions from Member States giving their views on the matter;

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[2] A/73/177.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session an updated report on recent developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts, with an annex containing submissions from Member States giving their views on the matter;

5. *Encourages* the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters to continue its discussions on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to convene, from voluntary contributions, a one-day focused informal seminar in Geneva in 2019 on the role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament, in order to facilitate dialogue among relevant stakeholders on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament".

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.56

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
22 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 101
General and complete disarmament

Argentina, Brazil, Mongolia and Nicaragua: draft resolution

Fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, 2020

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 64/52 of 2 December 2009 and 69/66 of 2 December 2014 by which it convened the second and third Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia in 2010 and 2015, respectively,

Recognizing the right of any group of States to conclude regional treaties in order to ensure the total absence of nuclear weapons in their respective territories, as established by article VII of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[1]

Recalling the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[2]

Welcoming the important contribution of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[3] Rarotonga,[4] Bangkok[5] and Pelindaba[6] and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[7] to the achievement of the objectives of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation, and towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Recalling its resolution 71/43 of 5 December 2016 on Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.
[2] Resolution S-10/2.
[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.
[4] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.
[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.
[6] A/50/426, annex.
[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

18-17441 (E) 251018

Please recycle

Reaffirming the conviction that, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, the establishment and maintenance of nuclear-weapon-free zones enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objectives of nuclear disarmament,

Urging States that have not yet established nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties to accelerate efforts in this direction, particularly in the Middle East, through agreements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, in accordance with the provisions of the Final Document of the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and the principles adopted by the Disarmament Commission in 1999,[8]

Recalling that States in regions in which there are nuclear-weapon-free zones are encouraged to ratify the respective treaties that establish said zones,

Recalling also that it is expected that the States to which the protocols to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones are open for signature ratify them and constructively consult and cooperate to bring about the entry into force of the protocols,

Noting that, among other aspects, those protocols include the necessary security guarantees for the States belonging to nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Recognizing the progress made on increased collaboration within and between zones at the first, second and third Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Mexico City from 26 to 28 April 2005 and in New York on 30 April 2010 and 24 April 2015, respectively, at which States reaffirmed their need to cooperate in order to achieve their common objectives,

1. *Decides* to convene the fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia as a one-day conference at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 24 April 2020;

2. *Invites* all States Members and observer States of the United Nations that are States parties or signatories to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia to participate in the Conference;

3. *Also invites* all States parties and signatories to the protocols to the treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones to participate in the capacity of observers;

4. *Encourages* all the other States Members and observer States of the United Nations to participate in the capacity of observers;

5. *Decides* that the objective of the Conference will be to consider ways and means to enhance consultations and cooperation among nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia, the treaty agencies and interested States, with the purpose of promoting coordination and convergence in the implementation of the provisions of the treaties and in strengthening the regime of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Urges* the States parties and signatories to treaties that have established nuclear-weapon-free zones to develop activities of cooperation and coordination in order to promote their common objectives in the framework of the Conference;

7. *Welcomes* the offer by Mongolia to act as coordinator of the fourth Conference and to conduct preparatory meetings and informal consultations as may

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I, sect. C.

be necessary to prepare for the Conference and its draft outcome document, beginning in early 2019;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the support necessary to convene the fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia and to transmit the report of the fourth Conference to the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission.

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.67

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
19 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 105
Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 72/68 of 4 December 2017,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption and entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[1] and its amended article 1,[2] the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[1] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[1] and its amended version,[3] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[1] the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)[4] and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V),[5]

Recalling the results of the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 12 to 16 December 2016,

Welcoming the results of the 2017 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 22 to 24 November 2017,

Welcoming also the results of the Nineteenth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, held in Geneva on 21 November 2017,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.
[2] Ibid., vol. 2260, No. 22495.
[3] Ibid., vol. 2048, No. 22495.
[4] Ibid., vol. 2024, No. 22495.
[5] Ibid., vol. 2399, No. 22495.

18-17442 (E) 251018

Please recycle

Welcoming further the results of the Eleventh Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, held in Geneva on 20 November 2017,

Noting with satisfaction that the Meeting of the Group of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, the Meeting of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V and the two sessions of the Group of Governmental Experts related to emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapons systems of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention were held in 2018, and anticipating that the issue of non-payment will be addressed in order to deliver adequate and timely funding, enabling a positive financial situation that will allow meetings to be held next year,

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of various categories of conventional weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects,

Emphasizing the importance of the perspectives of women, men, boys and girls in considering the issues addressed by the Convention and its Protocols,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[1] and the Protocols thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

2. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V);[5]

4. *Welcomes* additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as consents to be bound by the Protocols thereto;

5. *Acknowledges* the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and of the respective office holders of the conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, Protocol V and Amended Protocol II, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

6. *Recalls* the following decisions by the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention:

(a) To establish an open-ended Group of Governmental Experts related to emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapons systems in the context of the objectives and purposes of the Convention, adhering to the agreed recommendations contained in document CCW/CONF.V/2, and to submit a report to the 2017 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention consistent with those recommendations;

(b) To add to the agenda of the next Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2017 the item "Protocol III";

(c) To add to the agenda of the next Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2017 the item "Mines other than anti-personnel mines";

(d) To add to the agenda of the next Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2017 the item for informal discussion "Consideration of how developments in the field of science and technology relevant to the Convention may be addressed under the Convention";

(e) To invite the Chair-elect to conduct consultations with a view to including on the agenda of the 2017 annual Meeting of the High Contracting Parties the item "Strengthening the respect for international humanitarian law and addressing, in the context and objectives of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, the challenges presented by the use of conventional weapons in armed conflicts and their impact on civilians, particularly in areas where there are concentrations of civilians";

(f) To include on the agenda of the annual Meetings of the High Contracting Parties the item "Financial issues related to the Convention and its annexed Protocols" and to consider at the next such meeting efficiency and cost-saving measures and a report to be prepared by the Chair-elect;

(g) To retain the practice of keeping summary records only for the final sessions of the future Review Conferences, the meetings of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, and the Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and Protocol V;

(h) To continue the Sponsorship Programme;

7. *Also recalls* the following decisions by the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention in 2017:

(a) To call for a 10-day meeting, to be held in Geneva in 2018, of the Group of Governmental Experts related to emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapons systems in the context of the objectives and purposes of the Convention;

(b) To call for the universalization and full implementation of Protocol III on Incendiary Weapons, given the Protocol's importance, and to retain the agenda item "Protocol III";

(c) To request the Chair-elect to hold an informal open consultation on how best to address the continuing differences of views on "Mines other than anti-personnel mines" and to report to the High Contracting Parties in 2018;

(d) To place on the agenda of its next meeting the item "Emerging issues in the context of the objectives and purposes of the Convention" and to invite the High Contracting Parties to submit, no later than six weeks in advance of that meeting, working papers on issues they intend to raise;

(e) To keep under regular review the implementation of the financial measures that were agreed upon, in the light of the report of the Chair, to improve the situation of the Convention;

(f) To request the Chair-elect to identify and report to the High Contracting Parties in 2018 any further measures that could be considered to improve the stability of the Secretariat's support to the Convention;

8. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to ensure full and prompt compliance with their financial obligations under the Convention and its annexed Protocols;

9. *Welcomes* the adoption by consensus of the financial measures by all High Contracting Parties at the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2017 in response to the call to explore options to improve the financial situation and ways to ensure financial stability for the operation of the Convention and its annexed Protocols, and

also welcomes the request to keep the measures under review in order to ensure the financial sustainability and the adequate and timely funding of the Convention;

10. *Also welcomes* the commitment by the High Contracting Parties to continue to contribute to the further development of international humanitarian law, and, in this context, to keep under review both the development of new weapons and uses of weapons, which may have indiscriminate effects or cause unnecessary suffering;

11. *Further welcomes* the commitment of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol and the implementation of the decisions of the First and Second Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol establishing a comprehensive framework for the exchange of information and cooperation;

12. *Notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols;

13. *Also notes* the efforts of the Chair to find, as requested by the High Contracting Parties, a stable basis for the Implementation Support Unit within the Geneva Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, which was established following a decision by the 2009 Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, and recalls the decision of the Meeting of the High Contracting Parties in 2017 requesting the Chair-elect to identify and report to the High Contracting Parties in 2018 any further measures that could be considered in order to improve the stability of the Secretariat's support to the Convention without prejudice to the outcome of the efforts of the 2018 Chair;

14. *Underlines* the vital role of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and implementation of the Convention;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the assistance necessary and to provide such services as may be required for the annual conferences and expert meetings of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention and of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and Protocol V, as well as for any continuation of the work after the meetings;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1[2] and the Protocols;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.68

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
19 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 101 (aa)
General and complete disarmament: transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

China and Russian Federation: draft resolution

Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/66 of 8 December 2005, 61/75 of 6 December 2006, 62/43 of 5 December 2007, 63/68 of 2 December 2008, 64/49 of 2 December 2009, 65/68 of 8 December 2010, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 69/38 of 2 December 2014, 70/53 of 7 December 2015, 71/42 of 5 December 2016, 71/90 of 6 December 2016 and 72/56 of 4 December 2017, as well as its decision 66/517 of 2 December 2011,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General of 15 October 1993 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, the annex to which contains the study by governmental experts on the application of confidence-building measures in outer space,[1]

Reaffirming the right of all countries to explore and use outer space in accordance with international law,

Reaffirming also that preventing an arms race in outer space is in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and is an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Recalling, in this context, its resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it recognized the need for increased transparency and confirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means of reinforcing the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Noting the constructive debates that the Conference on Disarmament has held on this subject and the views expressed by Member States,

[1] A/48/305 and A/48/305/Corr.1.

Please recycle

Noting also the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,[2] and the submission of its updated version[3] in 2014,

Noting further that, since 2004, several States[4] have introduced a policy of not being the first State to place weapons in outer space,

Welcoming the launch of discussions in the working group of the Disarmament Commission tasked with preparing recommendations relating to the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities with the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Noting the presentation by the European Union of a draft of a non-legally binding international code of conduct for outer space activities,

Recognizing that the work, both already undertaken and planned for the future, within the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and its Legal Subcommittee, is expected to make a significant contribution through the implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures to the promotion of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities,

Noting the contribution of Member States that have submitted to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 61/75, paragraph 2 of resolution 62/43, paragraph 2 of resolution 63/68 and paragraph 2 of resolution 64/49,

Welcoming the work done in 2012 and 2013 by the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities, which was convened by the Secretary-General, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to conduct a study on outer space transparency and confidence-building measures,

Noting the consideration of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts,[5] as well as views on the modalities of making practical use of the recommendations contained therein, as set out in the report of the Committee on its fifty-eighth session, held in 2015,[6] at which it found that the Committee had a fundamental role to play in enhancing transparency and confidence-building among States, as well as in ensuring that outer space is maintained for peaceful purposes,

Noting also that, in its report, the Group of Governmental Experts recognized the value of the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in developing a set of voluntary, non-legally binding guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, some of which could be considered as potential transparency and confidence-building measures, while others could enhance the safety of outer space activities and thereby provide the technical basis for the further implementation of additional transparency and confidence-building measures,

Taking note of the special report by the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space) on the implementation of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer

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[2] See CD/1839.

[3] See CD/1985.

[4] Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[5] A/68/189.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/70/20).

Space Activities, and the recommendations contained therein, as submitted to the Committee at its fifty-ninth session, in 2016,[7]

Welcoming resolution 186 of 7 November 2014 of the International Telecommunication Union on strengthening the role of the Union with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, adopted by the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 20 October to 7 November 2014,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities,[5] considered by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to review and implement, to the greatest extent practicable, the proposed transparency and confidence-building measures contained in the report, through the relevant national mechanisms, on a voluntary basis and in a manner consistent with the national interests of Member States;

3. *Also encourages* Member States, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report, with a view to promoting the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures, to hold regular discussions in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament on the prospects for their implementation;

4. *Requests* the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system, to which, in accordance with its resolution 68/50, the report was circulated, to assist in effectively implementing the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

5. *Encourages* the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to coordinate, as appropriate, on matters related to the recommendations contained in the report;

6. *Welcomes* the joint ad hoc meetings of the First and Fourth Committees, held on 22 October 2015 and 12 October 2017, on possible challenges to space security and sustainability, convened in accordance with the report and its resolutions 69/38 and 71/90, and the substantive exchanges of opinions on various aspects of security in outer space that took place during the meetings;

7. *Calls upon* Member States and the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the full range of conclusions and recommendations contained in the report;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities in the United Nations system, which contains summaries of the submissions received from Member States giving their views on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;[8]

9. *Urges* Member States to continue to submit, within the relevant forums, information on the specific unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities implemented in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts;

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[7] A/AC.105/1116.

[8] A/72/65 and A/72/65/Add.1.

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities".

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.68/Rev.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
30 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 101 (aa)
General and complete disarmament: transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

China and Russian Federation: revised draft resolution

Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/66 of 8 December 2005, 61/75 of 6 December 2006, 62/43 of 5 December 2007, 63/68 of 2 December 2008, 64/49 of 2 December 2009, 65/68 of 8 December 2010, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 69/38 of 2 December 2014, 70/53 of 7 December 2015, 71/42 of 5 December 2016, 71/90 of 6 December 2016 and 72/56 of 4 December 2017, as well as its decision 66/517 of 2 December 2011,

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General of 15 October 1993 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, the annex to which contains the study by governmental experts on the application of confidence-building measures in outer space,[1]

Reaffirming the right of all countries to explore and use outer space in accordance with international law,

Reaffirming also that preventing an arms race in outer space is in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and is an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Recalling, in this context, its resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it recognized the need for increased transparency and confirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means of reinforcing the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Noting the constructive debates that the Conference on Disarmament has held on this subject and the views expressed by Member States,

[1] A/48/305 and A/48/305/Corr.1.

Please recycle

Noting also the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,[2] and the submission of its updated version[3] in 2014,

Noting further that, since 2004, several States[4] have introduced a policy of not being the first State to place weapons in outer space,

Welcoming the launch of discussions in the working group of the Disarmament Commission tasked with preparing recommendations relating to the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities with the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Noting the presentation by the European Union of a draft of a non-legally binding international code of conduct for outer space activities,

Recognizing that the work within the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and its Legal Subcommittee, including the promotion of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, has a fundamental role to play in enhancing transparency and confidence-building among States and in ensuring that outer space is maintained for peaceful purposes,

Noting the contribution of Member States that have submitted to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 61/75, paragraph 2 of resolution 62/43, paragraph 2 of resolution 63/68 and paragraph 2 of resolution 64/49,

Welcoming the work done in 2012 and 2013 by the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities, which was convened by the Secretary-General, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to conduct a study on outer space transparency and confidence-building measures,

Noting the consideration of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts,[5] as well as views on the modalities of making practical use of the recommendations contained therein, as set out in the report of the Committee on its fifty-eighth session, held in 2015,[6] at which it found that the Committee had a fundamental role to play in enhancing transparency and confidence-building among States, as well as in ensuring that outer space is maintained for peaceful purposes,

Noting also that, in its report, the Group of Governmental Experts recognized the value of the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in developing a set of voluntary, non-legally binding guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, some of which could be considered as potential transparency and confidence-building measures, while others could enhance the safety of outer space activities and thereby provide the technical basis for the further implementation of additional transparency and confidence-building measures,

Taking note of the special report by the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space) on the implementation of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer

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[2] See CD/1839.

[3] See CD/1985.

[4] Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[5] A/68/189.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/70/20).

Space Activities, and the recommendations contained therein, as submitted to the Committee at its fifty-ninth session, in 2016,[7]

Welcoming resolution 186 of 7 November 2014 of the International Telecommunication Union on strengthening the role of the Union with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, adopted by the 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 20 October to 7 November 2014,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities,[5] considered by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to review and implement, to the greatest extent practicable, the proposed transparency and confidence-building measures contained in the report, through the relevant national mechanisms, on a voluntary basis and in a manner consistent with the national interests of Member States;

3. *Also encourages* Member States, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report, with a view to promoting the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures, to hold regular discussions in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament on the prospects for their implementation;

4. *Requests* the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system, to which, in accordance with its resolution 68/50, the report was circulated, to assist in effectively implementing the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

5. *Encourages* the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to coordinate, as appropriate, on matters related to the recommendations contained in the report;

6. *Welcomes* the joint ad hoc meetings of the First and Fourth Committees, held on 22 October 2015 and 12 October 2017, on possible challenges to space security and sustainability, convened in accordance with the report and its resolutions 69/38 and 71/90, and the substantive exchanges of opinions on various aspects of security in outer space that took place during the meetings;

7. *Calls upon* Member States and the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the full range of conclusions and recommendations contained in the report;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities in the United Nations system, which contains summaries of the submissions received from Member States giving their views on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;[8]

9. *Invites* Member States to continue to submit, within the relevant forums, information on the specific unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities implemented in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts;

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[7] A/AC.105/1116.

[8] A/72/65 and A/72/65/Add.1.

10. *Decides* to convene, within existing resources, a joint half-day panel discussion of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee) and the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) to address possible challenges to space security and sustainability, and to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", a sub-item entitled "Joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability";

11. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities".

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.69

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 October 2018
English
Original: French

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 102 (f)
Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

Cameroon:* draft resolution

Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 72/63 of 4 December 2017,

Recalling also the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the Central Africa subregion,

Recalling that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures,

Reaffirming the importance and relevance of the Standing Advisory Committee as an instrument of preventive diplomacy in the subregional architecture for the promotion of peace and security in Central Africa,

Bearing in mind the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee decided upon at the forty-fourth ministerial meeting of the Committee, held in Yaoundé from 29 May to 2 June 2017, with a view to enhancing its contribution to the achievement of the objectives of peace, security and development in Central Africa,

* On behalf of the States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa.

Please recycle

Taking note of the recommendations of the first Conference of States Parties to the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention), held in Yaoundé from 11 to 13 June 2018, and of the Fourth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, held in Tokyo from 20 to 24 August 2018,

Noting the establishment of a trust fund for the implementation of the Kinshasa Convention,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

Welcoming the Libreville Declaration on the adoption and implementation of the regional strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa, adopted by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 26 November 2015 at their forty-first ministerial meeting, held in Libreville from 23 to 27 November 2015,[1]

Also welcoming the adoption, at the forty-fourth meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, of the plan of action and schedule for the implementation of the regional strategy,

Further welcoming the holding in Lomé of the Joint Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States and the Economic Community of Central African States on peace, security, stability and the fight against terrorism and violent extremism, to pool the efforts of the two subregions in the fight against terrorism, violent extremism, and small arms and light weapons,

Welcoming the holding and recommendations of the forty-fifth and forty-sixth ministerial meetings of the Standing Advisory Committee, held in December 2017 in Kigali and in May and June 2018 in Brazzaville, respectively,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[2] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa[3] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[4]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998, respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[5]

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea, held in Yaoundé

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[1] See A/70/682-S/2016/39, annex 3.

[2] A/50/474, annex I.

[3] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[4] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[5] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

on 24 and 25 June 2013, the inauguration in Yaoundé, on 11 September 2014, of the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea, the effective commencement of its activities with the installation of its statutory officials in Yaoundé on 22 February 2017, the inauguration of new offices of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa in Pointe Noire, Congo, on 20 October 2014, and the launch of the Multinational Maritime Coordination Centre in Cotonou, Benin, in March 2015, and also the conclusion of the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa, held in Lomé on 15 October 2016,

Recalling its resolution 69/314 of 30 July 2015, the first such resolution on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, and also its resolutions 70/301 of 9 September 2016 and 71/326 of 11 September 2017, and welcoming the outcome of the high-level meetings on poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking, hosted by Gabon and Germany and held on the margins of the high-level segments of the sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa, and taking note in this regard of the concrete conflict prevention initiatives facilitated by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat,

Welcoming the close cooperation established between the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the Economic Community of Central African States, as well as the signing of a new framework of cooperation agreement between the two entities on 14 June 2016,

Bearing in mind the increased focus of the Standing Advisory Committee on human security questions, such as trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as an important consideration for subregional peace, stability and conflict prevention, and welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session of the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[6]

Expressing continued concern about the fragile situation in the Central African Republic and in the neighbouring countries affected, and noting the importance of making tangible progress, in particular with regard to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, strengthening the authority of the State, and rationalization of the multiple peace initiatives,

Expressing concern about the increasing impact of cross-border criminality, in particular the activities of mercenaries, the Lord's Resistance Army, the terrorist attacks by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin region and incidents of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, on peace, security and development in Central Africa,

Welcoming the progress made by the States members of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and Benin in making the Multinational Joint Task Force operational in order to effectively combat the threat posed by the Boko Haram terrorist group to the Lake Chad Basin region, and taking note of the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Lake Chad Basin Commission and the African Union to support the Task Force,

Also welcoming the visit made by the Security Council to the countries of the Lake Chad Basin region from 2 to 7 March 2017, and welcoming resolution 2349 (2017) of 31 March 2017 adopted by the Council at the end of the visit, in which the Council called for increased assistance to the countries of the region,

[6] Resolution 72/1.

Considering the urgent need to prevent the possible movement of illicit weapons, mercenaries and combatants involved in conflicts in the Sahel and in neighbouring countries in the Central African subregion,

1. *Reaffirms* its support for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

2. *Welcomes* the measures taken at the forty-fourth ministerial meeting of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa with a view to revitalizing the work of the Committee, and takes note of the institutionalization of the role of the Committee focal point to ensure follow-up of the recommendations concerning the competent national institutions;

3. *Welcomes and encourages* the initiative of the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to develop collaboration and synergies with the Economic Community of Central African States and organs of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, in particular the Commission for Defence and Security, including with a view to promoting the implementation of the regional strategy for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa adopted by the Committee;

4. *Encourages* the Standing Advisory Committee decision to develop a communications strategy in order to increase its visibility, including among the populations of the subregion, in cooperation with civil society;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms control programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

6. *Encourages* Member States to provide assistance to those States members of the Standing Advisory Committee that have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty,[7] and encourages those that have not yet done so to ratify the Treaty;

7. *Also encourages* Member States to assist the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in financing coordination activities for the control of small arms and light weapons at the regional and national levels;

8. *Further encourages* Member States to provide assistance to the secretariat of the Economic Community of Central African States, as the mechanism for the coordination and implementation of the Kinshasa Convention[8] at the subregional level, with a view to carrying out related activities in accordance with articles 29 and 31 of the Convention;

9. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to implement the Libreville Declaration on the adoption and implementation of the regional strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa, and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the international community to support those measures;

10. *Also urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to intensify their efforts to implement the integrated strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central

[7] See resolution 67/234 B.

[8] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

Africa, and requests the United Nations Regional Office to support the efforts of States members of the Committee and of the Economic Community of Central African States in this regard;

11. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings;

12. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes;

13. *Encourages* States to contribute to the trust fund for the implementation of the Kinshasa Convention;

14. *Encourages* Member States to continue to implement the outcomes of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea by operationalizing the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea and activities of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa, and also encourages the implementation of the African Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa adopted at the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa;

15. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Republic of Cameroon and the Republic of the Congo in providing assistance, respectively, to the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea and the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa, and urges other member States to honour their financial commitments in order to ensure the predictable and sustainable operation of these Centres;

16. *Calls upon* Member States to take immediate concerted action to counter the phenomenon of poaching and trafficking in wildlife, including through the implementation of the provisions of its resolutions 69/314, 70/301 and 71/326;

17. *Expresses its full support* for the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and the United Nations in the Central African Republic, and calls upon the international community to support these efforts;

18. *Requests* the Security Council to mandate the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic to reinforce and support the Central African defence and security forces in their efforts to stabilize the country, including in the east, in the context of the withdrawal of the United States and Ugandan forces combating the Lord's Resistance Army;

19. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to pursue their discussions on concrete conflict prevention initiatives, and requests in this regard the assistance of the Secretary-General;

20. *Encourages* the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to work together and make every effort to address the threat resulting from the activities of mercenaries in Central Africa,

21. *Requests* the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, to facilitate the efforts undertaken by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in particular for their execution of the Implementation Plan for the Kinshasa Convention,[9] as adopted on 19 November 2010 at the thirty-first

[9] See A/65/717-S/2011/53, annex.

ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, held in Brazzaville from 15 to 19 November 2010;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to assist the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

24. *Welcomes* the contribution made by Cameroon to the trust fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, reminds the States members of the Committee of the commitments they undertook on the adoption of the Declaration on the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa[10] on 8 May 2009, and invites those States members of the Committee that have not already done so to contribute to the trust fund;

25. *Urges* other Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

26. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, to strengthen the gender component of the various meetings of the Committee relating to disarmament and international security;

27. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support to the Standing Advisory Committee, expresses appreciation for the role played by the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, welcomes the strengthening of the Office, and strongly encourages the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and international partners to support the work of the Office;

28. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Standing Advisory Committee towards addressing cross-border security threats in Central Africa, including activities of Boko Haram and the Lord's Resistance Army, and acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, as well as the fallout from the situation in the Central African Republic, and also welcomes the role of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa in coordinating those efforts, working closely with the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and all relevant regional and international partners;

29. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular biannual meetings;

30. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

31. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

[10] A/64/85-S/2009/288, annex I.

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.69/Rev.1

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
30 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session

First Committee

Agenda item 102 (f)

Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly: regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

Cameroon and Congo:* draft resolution

Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 72/63 of 4 December 2017,

Recalling also the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the Central Africa subregion,

Recalling that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures,

Reaffirming the importance and relevance of the Standing Advisory Committee as an instrument of preventive diplomacy in the subregional architecture for the promotion of peace and security in Central Africa,

Bearing in mind the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee decided upon at the forty-fourth ministerial meeting of the Committee, held in Yaoundé from 29 May to 2 June 2017, with a view to enhancing its contribution to the achievement of the objectives of peace, security and development in Central Africa,

* On behalf of the States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa.

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Noting the entry into force of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention) on 8 March 2017[1] and the Third Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, held in Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2017,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

Welcoming the Libreville Declaration on the Adoption and Implementation of the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism and the Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons in Central Africa, adopted by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 26 November 2015 at their forty-first ministerial meeting, held in Libreville from 23 to 27 November 2015,[2]

Also welcoming the adoption, at the forty-fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, of the plan of action and schedule for the implementation of the regional strategy under the auspices of the Economic Community of Central African States,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned, and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[3] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa[4] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[5]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998, respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[6]

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea, held in Yaoundé on 24 and 25 June 2013, the inauguration in Yaoundé, on 11 September 2014, of the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea, the effective commencement of its activities with the installation of its statutory officials in Yaoundé on 22 February 2017, the inauguration of new offices of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa in Pointe Noire, Congo, on 20 October 2014, and the launch of the Multinational Maritime Coordination Centre in Cotonou, Benin, in March 2015, and also the conclusion of the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa, held in Lomé on 15 October 2016,

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[1] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

[2] See A/70/682-S/2016/39, annex 3.

[3] A/50/474, annex I.

[4] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[5] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[6] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

Recalling its resolution 69/314 of 30 July 2015, the first such resolution on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, and also its resolutions 70/301 of 9 September 2016 and 71/326 of 11 September 2017, and welcoming the outcome of the high-level meetings on poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking, hosted by Gabon and Germany and held on the margins of the high-level segments of the sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for early warning, conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa, and taking note in this regard of the concrete conflict prevention initiatives facilitated by the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat,

Welcoming the close cooperation established between the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the Economic Community of Central African States, as well as the signing of the framework of cooperation agreement between the two entities on 14 June 2016,

Bearing in mind the increased focus of the Standing Advisory Committee on human security questions, such as trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as an important consideration for subregional peace, stability and conflict prevention, and welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session of the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons[7] following the high-level meeting of the Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

Expressing continued concern about the fragile situation in the Central African Republic and in the neighbouring countries affected, and noting the importance of promoting the political process through the implementation of the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic in order to make tangible progress, in particular with regard to the protection of civilians, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, and strengthening the authority of the State,

Taking note of the Kigali Declaration on the Situation in the Central African Republic,[8] highlighting the regional security implications of the situation in the Central African Republic, and reiterating the commitment of States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to supporting the implementation of the African Union road map for peace and reconciliation, including through financial contributions, and their cooperation to fight more effectively the risks of instability in the country,

Also taking note of the Brazzaville Declaration on Confidence-Building Measures,[9] and expressing concern that the issue of mercenaries has become a major security concern, undermining trust and creating tensions among States members of the Standing Advisory Committee,

Expressing concern about the increasing impact of cross-border criminality, in particular the activities of the Lord's Resistance Army, the terrorist attacks by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin region and incidents of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, and the issue of transhumance and its cross-border security implications for peace, security and development in Central Africa,

Welcoming the progress made by the States members of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and Benin in making the Multinational Joint Task Force operational in

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[7] Resolution 72/1.

[8] A/73/224, annex I.

[9] Ibid., annex IV.

order to combat effectively the threat posed by the Boko Haram terrorist group to the Lake Chad Basin region,

Also welcoming the adoption by the Lake Chad Basin Commission, with the support of the African Union, of the Regional Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience Strategy for Areas Affected by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin Region, in Abuja on 30 August 2018,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 2349 (2017) of 31 March 2017, in which the Council called for, inter alia, increased assistance to the countries of the region,

Considering the urgent need to prevent the possible movement of illicit weapons, mercenaries and combatants involved in conflicts in the Sahel and in neighbouring countries in the Central African subregion,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

2. *Welcomes and encourages* the initiative of the States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa to further develop collaboration and synergies with the Economic Community of Central African States, in particular the Commission for Defence and Security, including by means of closed meetings, with a view to promoting the implementation of the regional strategy for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa adopted by the Committee;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Standing Advisory Committee of the Kigali Declaration on the Reform of the Council for Peace and security in Central Africa,[10] and urges the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and the international community to provide technical and financial support to accelerate the reform of the Council;

4. *Welcomes also* efforts under way by the Standing Advisory Committee and its secretariat to implement the communication strategy adopted at the forty-fifth ministerial meeting of the Committee, held in Kigali from 4 to 8 December 2017, and encourages Member States and other partners to support initiatives aimed at increasing the visibility of the Committee, including among the populations of the subregion, in cooperation with civil society;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms control programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

6. *Encourages* Member States to provide assistance to those States members of the Standing Advisory Committee that have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty,[11] and encourages those that have not yet done so to ratify the Treaty;

7. *Encourages* States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and other interested States to provide financial support for the implementation of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[1] and encourages signatories that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention;

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[10] Ibid., annex II.

[11] See resolution 67/234 B.

8. *Welcomes* the holding of the First Conference of States Parties to the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly in Yaoundé from 11 to 13 June 2018, in accordance with article 34, paragraph 3, of the Kinshasa Convention;

9. *Encourages* Member States to assist States parties to the Kinshasa Convention with coordination activities for the control of small arms and light weapons at the regional and national levels, including funding thereof, as expeditiously as possible;

10. *Reaffirms* its support for the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and its four pillars, which constitute an ongoing effort, and calls upon Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to step up their efforts to implement the Strategy in an integrated and balanced manner and in all aspects;

11. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to implement the Libreville Declaration on the Adoption and Implementation of the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism and the Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons in Central Africa, and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the international community to support those measures;

12. *Urges* the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States to implement the integrated strategy and plan of action for combating terrorism and the trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Africa, and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa to support the efforts of States members of the Economic Community of Central African States in this regard;

13. *Welcomes* the Joint Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States and the Economic Community of Central African States, in coordination with the African Union Commission, on Peace, Security, Stability and the Fight against Terrorism and Violent Extremism held in Lomé on 30 July 2018, and also welcomes the Declaration on Peace, Security, Stability and the Fight against Terrorism and Violent Extremism adopted at that Summit;

14. *Encourages* the Economic Community of Central African States and the Economic Community of West African States to work together towards the implementation of the Lomé Declaration;

15. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings, and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa to continue to provide support;

16. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, and urges the States concerned to ensure that such programmes take into consideration the needs of women and children associated with former combatants;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts of Cameroon and the Congo in providing assistance to the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea and the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa, respectively, and urges other member States to honour their financial commitments in order to ensure the predictable and sustainable operation of the two Centres;

18. *Encourages* Member States to continue to implement the outcomes of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea by operationalizing the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea and activities of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa, and also encourages the implementation of the Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa adopted at the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa;

19. *Calls upon* Member States and subregional bodies to take immediate concerted action to counter the phenomenon of poaching and trafficking in wildlife and natural resources, including through the implementation of the provisions of its resolutions 69/314, 70/301 and 71/326;

20. *Welcomes* the determination of the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of Central African States and the Economic Community of West African States to initiate common policies and joint programmes on the management of transhumance, sustainable water resources and the modernization of agriculture and livestock farming, and to identify measures for the prevention and peaceful management of conflicts between herders and farmers, as contained in the Lomé Declaration;

21. *Expresses its full support* for the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and the United Nations in the Central African Republic, and calls upon the international community to support these efforts;

22. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to pursue their discussions on concrete conflict prevention initiatives, and requests in this regard the assistance of the Secretary-General;

23. *Requests* the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, to facilitate the efforts undertaken by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in particular for their execution of the Implementation Plan for the Kinshasa Convention;[12]

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, with the support of the international community, to continue to assist the countries of Central Africa in tackling the issues of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

26. *Welcomes* the increased contributions made by several Member States to the trust fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, reminds the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee of the commitments that they undertook on the adoption of the Declaration on the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa on 8 May 2009[13] and the Bangui Declaration on 10 June 2016,[14] and invites those States members of the Committee that have not already done so to contribute to the trust fund;

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[12] See A/65/717-S/2011/53, annex.

[13] A/64/85-S/2009/288, annex I.

[14] A/71/293, annex I.

27. *Urges* other Members States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

28. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, to strengthen the gender component of the various meetings of the Committee relating to disarmament and international security, in line with the Sao Tome Declaration on the Participation of Women in the Statutory Meetings of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, adopted on 1 December 2016,[15] in which States members were invited to increase the representation of women in delegations participating in the statutory meetings of the Committee;

29. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support to the Standing Advisory Committee, expresses appreciation for the role played by the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, welcomes the strengthening of the Office, and strongly encourages the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and international partners to support the work of the Office;

30. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Standing Advisory Committee towards addressing cross-border security threats in Central Africa, including activities of Boko Haram and the Lord's Resistance Army, and acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, the issue of transhumance and its cross-border security implications, as well as the fallout from the situation in the Central African Republic, and also welcomes the role of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa in coordinating those efforts, working closely with the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and all relevant regional and international partners;

31. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular biannual meetings;

32. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

33. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

[15] A/72/363, annex II.

United Nations A/C.1/73/L.70

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
30 October 2018

Original: English

Seventy-third session
First Committee
Agenda items 104 and 136

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Convening a conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction

Programme budget implications of draft decision A/C.1/73/L.22/Rev.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Requests contained in the draft decision

1. Under the terms of paragraphs (a), (c), (d) and (e) of draft decision A/C.1/73/L.22/Rev.1, as reproduced below, the General Assembly would decide:

(a) To entrust to the Secretary-General the convening, no later than 2019 for a duration of one week at United Nations Headquarters, of a conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, to which all States of the Middle East, the three co-sponsors of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in the light of their responsibility for the implementation of that resolution, the other two nuclear-weapon States and the relevant international organizations shall be invited, provided that:

(i) The conference shall take as its terms of reference the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference;

(ii) The conference shall aim at elaborating a legally binding treaty establishing a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region;

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(iii) All decisions emanating from the conference shall be taken by consensus by the States of the region;

(c) To request the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Biological Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit to prepare the background documents necessary for the conference;

(d) To request the Secretary-General to convene annual sessions of the conference for a duration of one week at United Nations Headquarters until the conference concludes the elaboration of a legally binding treaty establishing a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction;

(e) To also request the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on developments in this regard.

II. Relationship of the proposed requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 and to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

2. The requested activities referred to in the draft decision relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, programme 3, Disarmament, and programme 24, Public information, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 (A/71/6/Rev.1), and section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, section 4, Disarmament, and section 28, Public information, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 (A/72/6 (Sect. 2), A/72/6 (Sect. 4) and A/72/6 (Sect.4)/Corr.1 and A/72/6 (Sect. 28), respectively).

III. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

3. Pursuant to the request contained in paragraphs (a) and (d) of the draft decision, it is envisaged that each session of the conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction would entail a total of 10 meetings (5 days) in New York, with interpretation in all six languages. The conference would be convened annually, starting in 2019, until it concludes the elaboration of a legally binding treaty. This would constitute an addition to the meetings workload for the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and would entail annual additional requirements, starting in 2019, for meetings services in the amount of $84,000.

4. Furthermore, the request for documentation in paragraphs (a), (c), (d) and (e) of the draft decision would constitute an addition to the documentation workload for the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of 12 pre-session documents (a total of 105,800 words), 4 in-session documents (a total of 22,400 words) and 1 post-session document (10,700 words), to be issued in all six languages starting in 2019 and issued annually until the conference concludes the elaboration of a legally binding treaty. This would entail annual additional requirements for documentation services in the amount of $424,400, starting in 2019.

5. In addition, in order to provide an appropriate level of organizational and substantive support and servicing, taking into account the complexity, gravity and nature of the preparation and servicing of the conference, without impacting on other mandated activities, the Office for Disarmament Affairs would require annually,

starting in 2019, three general temporary assistance positions, including one position of Chief of Service (D-1) for 12 months, one of Political Affairs Officer (P-3) for 12 months and one of Documentation Assistant (G-6) for 3 months. This would entail annual additional requirements in the amount of $464,000, starting in 2019.

6. Furthermore, it is estimated that resources in the amount of $57,600 would be required annually, starting in 2019, to cover staff assessment related to the general temporary assistance positions in support of the conference.

7. Moreover, annual additional resources in the amount of $40,100 would be required in the Department of Public Information to cover the production of meeting summaries in English and French and the production and maintenance of a dedicated conference website in all six languages, starting in 2019.

IV. Modifications required in the programme of work and the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

8. To meet the provisions of the draft decision, the outputs under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 would need to be amended in respect of activities during the implementation of the budget, as follows:

Subprogramme 2: Weapons of mass destruction

Table 4.16

In table 4.16, under "Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies, and reports thereto (regular budget)", add:

"*Conference on the establishment of a Middle East Zone free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction*"

Substantive servicing of meetings:

Meetings of the conference (10);

Parliamentary documentation

Pre-session documents (12)

In-session documents (4)

Post-session documents (1)"

V. Financial implications of the proposals

9. Additional resource requirements in the amount of $1,070,100 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, section 4, Disarmament, section 28, Public information, and section 36, Staff assessment, would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 to implement the additional workload. The details of these additional resource requirements are provided in the table below.

10. Annual additional requirements in the amount of $1,070,100 in support of conferences in 2020 and beyond would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budgets for the appropriate periods.

Additional resource requirements, by section of the programme budget

(United States dollars)

	Annual resource requirements	*Resource requirements for 2019*	*Resource requirements for 2020*
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management			
Simultaneous interpretation	84 000	84 000	84 000
Pre-session documentation	322 700	322 700	322 700
In-session documentation	69 200	69 200	69 200
Post-session documentation	32 500	32 500	32 500
Subtotal, section 2	**508 400**	**508 400**	**508 400**
Section 4, Disarmament			
Other staff costs			
1 Chief of Service (D-1) for 12 months	271 400	271 400	271 400
1 Political Affairs Officer (P-3) for 12 months	170 800	170 800	170 800
1 Documentation Assistant (G-6) for 3 months	21 800	21 800	21 800
Subtotal, section 4	**464 000**	**464 000**	**464 000**
Section 28, Public information			
Meetings summaries for 10 meetings (5 full days)	20 400	20 400	20 400
Website production and maintenance (in six languages)	19 700	19 700	19 700
Subtotal, section 28	**40 100**	**40 100**	**40 100**
Section 36, Staff assessment			
Staff assessment (for 3 general temporary assistance positions)	57 600	57 600	57 600
Subtotal, section 36	**57 600**	**57 600**	**57 600**
Total	**1 070 100**	**1 070 100**	**1 070 100**

VI. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2018–2019

11. No provisions have been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the implementation of the activities requested in paragraphs (a), (c), (d) and (e) of the draft decision. It is not possible at present to identify activities within the relevant sections of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. It is therefore necessary that the additional resource requirements in the amount of $1,070,100 be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019.

VII. Contingency fund

12. Under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget.

VIII. Conclusion and action required of the General Assembly

13. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft decision A/C.1/73/L.22/Rev.1, additional resource requirements for 2019 in the amount of $1,070,100 would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, including $508,400 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, $464,600 under section 4, Disarmament, and $40,100 under section 28, Public information, as well as an additional amount of $57,600 under section 36, staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment. The amount of $1,070,100 would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019 to be approved by the Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**

14. **The annual additional requirements, as set out in the table in paragraph 10 above, in support of conferences in 2020 and beyond would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budgets for the appropriate periods.**